

I'm a local performing and recording artist, a concerned citizen and a media consumer.

I am not a songwriter but an instrumental performer of mostly traditional tunes played on the hammered dulcimer. I've released five independently produced albums in my 16 year career and sell them online and locally to a fairly small following. I play locally an average of once or twice a week in coffehouses, bookstores, schools, libraries, festivals and at private events such as weddings and dinner parties.

I have sent most of my CD's at the time of their release to a local public radio station, WNKU (89.7) Northern Kentucky University's public radio station, (an NPR affiliate) and they have graciously received them, played them on the air, and had me perform live on their local artist program. This has been a big help to me professionally as it has lent me credibility and given me good exposure. Members of the community have expressed to me their appreciation of WNKU's support of all local musicians. Other local stations that feature local performers and information are WAIF (88.3), WGUC (90.9), WVXU (91.7) and WOBO (88.7). I regularly listen to these stations because of their individual formats and their commitment to the community.

Any broadcast containing local information such as news, public affairs, or entertainment such as sports or music should count as local programming.

National playlists make it virtually impossible for the local independent musician to be heard and are a tremendous cause of diminished diversity on the airwaves.

LFPM stations seem like a good idea because the format should help promote more independent and individual programming.

I appreciate the FCC taking the effort and time to enable me to make my opinions heard. Thank you.